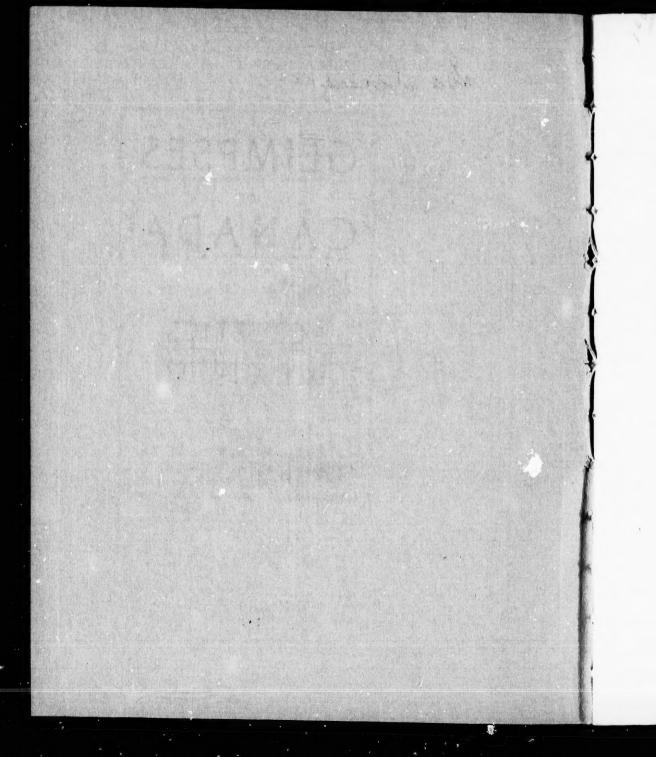


Blimpses of Canada

ILLUSTRATED ACROSTICS





Voce offriere

GLIMPSES

OF

CANADA

ACROSTICS By W. H. PORTER

ILLUSTRATED BY COURTESY OF THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO. AND THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.



ANADA! beautiful, boundless and blest!

All that a patriot could picture in dreams;

Nature's great lakes, vales and high mountain crest,

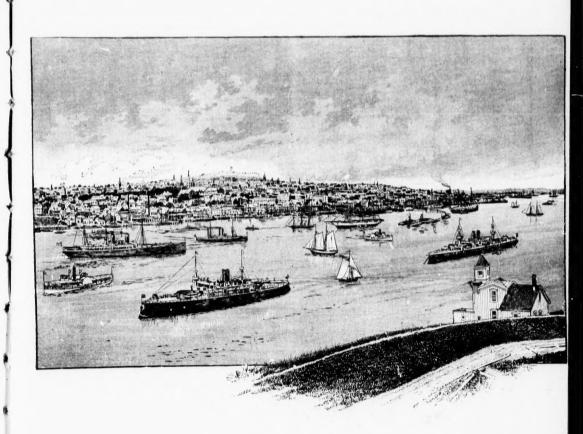
A rable lands on magnificent streams,

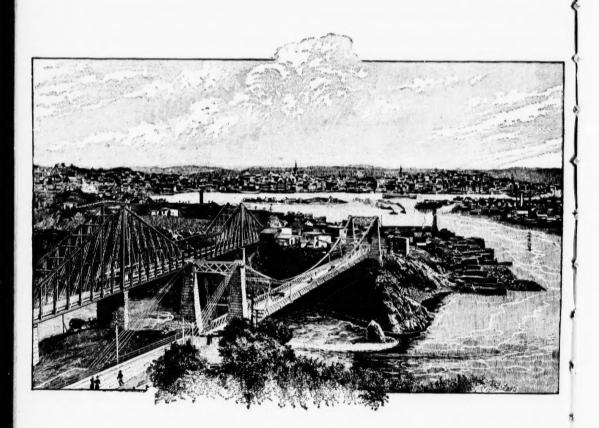
Deep forests, prairies and mineral strand,

All that can make her earth's favorite land.

ALIFAX! On thy grand harbor fleets can calmly rest,
All secure, though tempests near thee plough the ocean's breast.
Loudly roar thy throats of thunder when thy war-dogs wake,
Isles and citadel resounding till the rock beds shake.
From the station shrill the whistle of the "Westward Bound,"
"All aboard!" and Bedford Basin feels the thrill around.
X'tian age! did e'er such comforts travellers surround?

Now the city fades from vision as we round the Bay;
So too, other scenes before us soon will fade away.





Transporting her rich freightage o'er the deep.

Justly her spacious Harbor's fame is known;

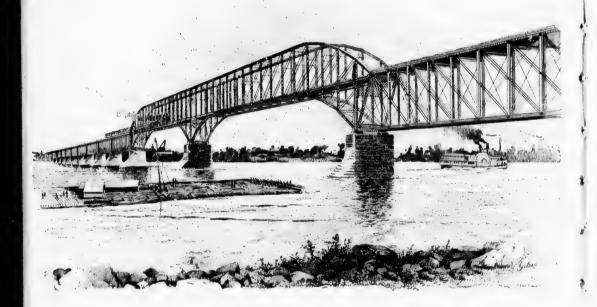
On her large commerce favoring winds have blo

On her large commerce favoring winds have blown: Her saline breezes tint her daughters fair, Nerving her sturdy sons to do and dare.

Nearing her coast, the mirage on her shore Beguiles with charms forgotten never more. HATEAU FRONTENAC, adorning her height,
Holds her high place as the trav'lers delight;
All that the senses of man could desire,
Taste, care and treasure to furnish conspire.
Even the beauties of Mercantile fleet
Add to the pleasance of city and street.
Under her eyes vast varieties meet.

Far o'er the river's broad, sweeping expanse, Rich scenes of beauty the vision entrance Outward as far as can wander the glance. Nature seems leader of Art in the aim To lend a lustre to Frontenac's fame. Even though 'eaving it, journeying West, No one need fear for provision and rest: All through the Rockies, and on to the Coast, Complete are comforts as any could boast.





ANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY! cloud by day
And fire by night once led a nation's way.
Now the same lead a nation's march again,
Across wide regions, rivers, boundless plain,
Deep canyons, rushing torrents, mountain chain,
Into one drawing all from Main to Main.
Achievement great, an enterprise so grand
Nobler has scarce been known in any land.

Praise to the men who dared to undertake A work so vast, a way so hard to make; Crossing such barriers as might well apal; Inwinding among tortuous mountains tall; From Eastern coast to the Pacific strand, Informing all into one common land, Combined and bound by this steel double band.

Riches from forest, river, rock and land Accounted worthless as the desert sand, Instinct with life by this arterial vein Leap into use and yield unbounded gain. Widely Canadian commerce thus expands, And greater good and larger wealth commands, Yearly increasing trade with far off lands.

ONTREAL! sublimely crested by her river side,
O verlooks her spreading landscapes with a queenly pride.
N orth and South and East and Westward spreads her growing trade,
Trains and ships conveying through her products grown and made.
R ising o'er her broad rich valley, blending with the sky,
E vening tinged, the mountain ranges please the lingering eye.
All along her deep St. Lawrence and beside her piers,
L eaving, coming, countless carriers bear her hopes and fears.



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TTAWA! serenely sitting on her mad Chaudiere,

Tells the people how each other's weal they should hold dear;

Tells them in her public statutes of what right demands,

And disburses wide the treasures trusted to her hands.

Wisely guiding, may she ever peace and law maintain,

All abroad o'er the Dominion from her Main to Main.

USKOKA LAKES! begemmed with beauteous Isles,
Under whose shady brows the grim rocks peer;
Sweet Summer cot from many a green grove smiles,
Known to rest-seekers as resort most dear.
O'er all Health kindly waves her magic wand,
Kindling dull eye and nerving feeble hand,
And causing faded tints to reappear.

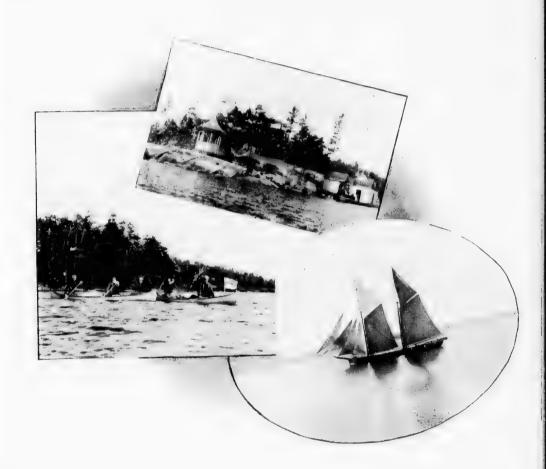
Long will we sound your praises far and near,

As we recall your waters soft and clear,

K eeled by canoe and steamer, sail and oar.

E'en your rich blending of sky, woods and mere,

Shall live in grateful memories ever more.





DORONTO sits a queen enthroned
beside her saltless sea,
O'ertipped with spires that heavenward point
'bove tallest tower and tree.
Rare are her signals—structures, streets,
and parks with tree and flower—
Of taste and skill and enterprise
and growing wealth and power.
Nor do the studious fail to find
resources suited to the mind.
To her famed Founts of Learning
come the aspiring with their dreams,
Outward the tide of knowledge
flows in ever widening streams.

NTARIO forms the finest gem
in our Dominion's crown,
Nor can another Province claim
such wide, well won renown.
Through "Thousand Isles" St. Lawrence
leads her treasures to the sea,
Away from wild Niagara's roar,
and wondrous majesty.
Rich are her minerals, forests, farms,
and fruitful vines and trees.
In her great Lakes swift steamers speed
as over inland seas;
On them the Summer zephyr sighs
and howls the Autumn breeze.

INNIPEG stands as the gateway of our wondrous West,
Inlet for the tide of toilers seeking homes of rest.

Nursed by the embracing waters where the River bends,
Nourished by unbounded Prairies, broadly it extends.

Instant as the swollen river, surging toward the main,
Presses through its narrow channel, wider space to gain,
E'en so through this open portal eager people pour,
Glad to gain a fuller freedom and an ampler store.

ANITOBA, Sky-encircled like the spreading main,
And like it, now smooth, now rolling, green, then gold with grain.
Now the train of trade and travel whistles loud and clear,
In the trail where once the Indian chased the bounding deer.
Thronging to thee, hardy toilers from beyond the sea,
On thy broad and fertile Prairies plant their homesteads free.
Big and buoyant Prairie Province! On thy fruitful soil,
All around shall rise and flourish homes of hopeful toil.
All abroad shall spring up o'er thee cities fair to view,
Nourished where once fed the wandering moose and caribou.
Droves of horse and herds of cattle graze near passing trains
Now where once the elk and bison hurried o'er the plains.
Winter's cold is soon forgotten where the hurrying Spring
Tells that soon from Summer sunshine harvesters will sing.

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ANFF! hemmed in heights of majesty as e'er were seen in dreams!

Among its Mountains wonder wakes, and joy among its streams.

None fails to feel the quick'ning thrill its glorious scenes inspire,

From morning's glow on Mountain peaks, to Sunset's snowy fire.

Famed far beyond her country's bound Banff reigns Queen Park the world around.

ATHEDRAL MOUNT! thou vast majestic pile,
Awed by thy grandeur, I admire the while
The Hand that raised thy massive structure so,
Height above height from thy broad base below:—
E'en as I gaze thou seemest still to grow.
Did thy great Builder with a power divine,
Rear thee for His grand pre-historic shrine?
And did He through the ages until now,
Leave thee thus great that haughty man might bow?

Monarch sublime! though brief my gaze on thee,
Over my spirit long thy spell shall be;
Undying chimes from thee shall swell with power,
Nor cease vibrating till life's latest hour,
To His high praise for whom these temples tower.





T. STEPHEN! when I saw thee first clouds veiled thy mighty brow,
On thy great crest the light full shines and shows thy splendor now.
Under thy cold crown can'st thou say what fervent fires have burned?
Noted thou how or when from silt to rock thyself wast turned.
Tell me, thou mighty Mount, if e'er thy heart thy Framer spurned?

Surely, Mount Stephen, thou must know thou wast not always so,

Thy head was not thus lifted high, nor crowned with glittering snow;

E'en though thou seemest in thy strength to wondering passers by,

Perpetually to stand the same and changes to defy,

He who thy solid fabric formed will bid it cease to be;

Endless but seems stamped on thy brow, thou Mount of majesty,

Nor wast thou, stable as thou art, reared for eternity.

T. MACDONALD! 'mid the mountains, towering as their king,
Thrilled with thy grandeur, I would fain thy sky-ward summit sing.

Majestic Mount! strong nerved must be the one that scales thy height,

Above the raging storms and clouds, in canopy of light,

Chamois on thee might well recoil with trembling and affright.

Did nature lift thy lofty form for her cathedral spire?

Or did the gods uprear thee thus for their high altar fire?

Not often such aspiring cone of mountain height one sees,

Among the lofty Himalayas, or Alps, or Pyrenees;

Low seem the towers that mortals rear, and frail compared with thee,

Divinely grand, tall towering Mount, symbol of majesty.



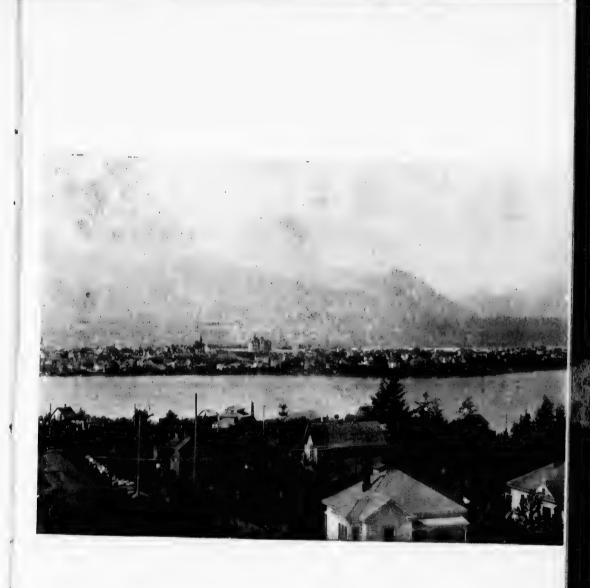


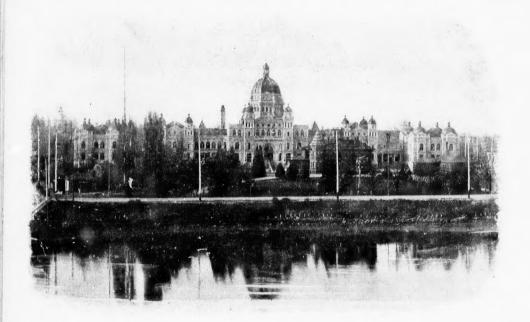
RITISH COLUMBIA, let me sing of thee,
Rising with mountains towering o'er the sea.
In thy wild woodlands and thy gorges grand,
Torrents bear down their wealth of golden sand.
In thy dark mines are gleams of power and pleasure;
Swarming thy waters life teems without measure;
Hid in thy hills lies hoarded untold treasure.

Columbia, not alone thy teeming fish,
Or towering trees, or minerals thee enrich;
L aved by thy rivers spread deep beds of soil,
Unfolding treasures to the touch of toil
More freely than thy mines, or woods, or waves,
Born of thy flood formed fertile forest graves.
In thee are wide diversities of clime,
And scenes supremely lovely and sublime.

ANCOUVER, central port of our highway
Across the world to Nippon and Cathay;
Nurtured from soil and sea and mines and wood,
Centre of forces strong for ill or good.
Occident and Orient are here to-day.
Under the waves and over land and sea,
Virtue and vice will spread swift-winged from thee.
Ever thy noble deeds of head and hands,
R eform the ills of near and far off lands.

Bald, bleak and cold thy barren heights of snow, Calm, sheltered, warm, thy homes and bay below.





ICTORIA! Sea gem of our Western coast,
In scenic loveliness Columbia's boast.
City of urban homes in rural seats,
Tranquil on coves near where the ocean beats.
O'er thy encircling waters all around,
Rise the long mountain ranges snow encrowned.
In thee fond Nature her rare taste discloses,
A dorning hills and homes with trees and roses.

B etween thy mild air and thy ocean breezes, C almly thy winter glides and scarcely freezes. ©SQUIMALT! in thy rocky lair,
S ound though he sleep, what power shall dare
Q uestion the Lion's presence there?
U prising from his fortress caves,
If he but thunder o'er the waves,
Mid shot and shell and canon's roar,
Awe wakes the world on sea and shore.
U nder his red-cross flag and crest,
L ong may the lordly Lion rest,
T ried guardian of our East and West.

Beneath his banner broad unfurled, C anadians with him front the world.

